Episode.07
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TRANS-
YLVANIA,
OSTMARK.
GRETE M. GOLLOB
カチ
SOMEDAY
I WILL
RETURN
TO THIS
PLACE.
TIME
TO GO.
EVEN
IF
ONLY
YOUR
BONES
REMAIN.
AND
I WILL
GET
YOU
BACK
HOME
TOO,
EMMA.

ALL OF YOU!
LISTEN UP!
OUR GOAL IS TO PUSH OUR WAY TO THE ENEMY'S CENTER.
IT'LL BE YOUR TOUGHEST BATTLE YET.
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE TO SET FOOT IN YOUR HOME COUNTRY AGAIN, FOLLOW MY ORDERS.
UNLESS I SAY OTHERWISE...
YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DIE UNDER MY COMMAND.

HONORING HER OUTSTANDING RESULTS, SHE WAS PROMOTED TO PILOT OFFICER AND ASSIGNED TO LEAD A TRAINING SQUADRON.
SHE DEVELOPED HER WITCH POWER AT A YOUNG AGE AND ENROLLED IN THE OSTMARK AIR FORCE ACADEMY.
GRETE M. GOLLOB.
HOWEVER, SHE HAD A BAD REPUTATION AMONG SUBORDINATES FOR HER STRICT AND RUTHLESS METHODS.
AS PART OF THE OSTMARK BORDER DEFENSE, SHE EARNED MUCH PRAISE FOR HER ACTIONS IN THE BATTLE OF THE BLACK SEA COAST.
...
BUT WHAT WAS HER TRUE INTENTION?

BLACK SEA COAST. SEVERAL WEEKS LATER.
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AHA!
JUST A QUICK PATCH, BUT IT SHOULD KEEP IT FROM SHAKING.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, F/L CANTACUZINO!

MANY WEEKS HAD PASSED SINCE MAJOR GOLLOB DECLARED THE WITHDRAWAL.
IN THE NORTHWEST, A LARGE NEUROI FORCE WAS TAKING OVER KARLSLAND.
NEUROI NESTS BEGAN TO APPEAR OVER THE BLACK SEA AND SOUTH OF CAIRO, THUS RAISING THE TENSION.
HOWEVER, THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MOVING IN-LAND WITH HUNDREDS OF REFUGEES.
GOLLOB'S STRATEGY IS TO BREAK THROUGH THE CENTER AND EVACUATE THE CITIZENS.
IT'S A DAUNTING AND SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE TASK TO BREAK THROUGH THE NEUROI CENTER.
FAMINE AND FATIGUE PLAGUED THE FACES OF PEOPLE AND SOLDIERS.
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ニャン!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
IT'S FINE. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME...
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF!
DON'T ACT SELFISHLY.
MAJOR...
RETURN TO YOUR POSTS.

EVERYONE IS EXHAUSTED!!!
THERE IS LESS NEUROI IN THIS AREA, YET YOU INCREASED THE NUMBER OF RECONS?!
AS EXPECTED FROM AN ARISTOCRAT...
DID THEY TEACH YOU TO SPOIL YOUR UNDERLINGS IN FLIGHT SCHOOL?
A MILITARY UNIT IS LIKE A MACHINE.
IF ONE PART MALFUNCTIONS, THE WHOLE THING WILL EVENTUALLY STOP WORKING.
BUT...!
I HAVE NO TIME FOR YOUR SILLY ARGUMENTS.
BY THE WAY... HAVE YOU SEEN WARRANT OFFICER INUFUSA?
HEY GUYS! I'M BAAA AAACK!

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EVERY-BODY! I'VE GATHERED LOTS OF EDIBLE GOODS!
THERE'S PLENTY FOR ALL OF US!
NO-BODY IS FOLLOW-ING MY RULES ...
I SHOULD PUT A LEASH ON YOUR DOG, FLIGHT LIEU-TENANT..
SORRY. BUT I'M AFRAID SHE'S NOT MY PET.

SHE'S... MY FRIEND.
フニャ
MAJOR! FLIGHT LIEU-TENANT!
PICK YOUR FRIENDS MORE CARE-FULLY ...
WE INTER-CEPTED AN EMER-GENCY CALL.
CAN YOU PATCH ME IN?
NO... BUT...
I SEE.
HOW TROUBLE-SOME...

LISTEN UP!
OUR UNIT IS TO BLAME FOR A NEARBY MILITARY BASE BEING TARGETED.
DUE TO NEUROI PRESENCE, THEY SUSTAINED MUCH DAMAGE AND WERE FORCED TO ABANDON THEIR BASE.
NO WAY!
THEY CAME THIS FAR?!
THERE'S NO TIME TO BE DISCOURAGED.

FROM HERE WE EXPAND OUR FORCES TO THIS MOUNTAIN-OUS REGION TO SUPPORT THIS BASE.
WE WILL BE THEIR SHIELDS, BUYING THEM SOME EXTRA TIME TO RETREAT.
F/L STOYANOV AND P/O VASSILIADES WILL HEAD THE EVAC-UATION.
IGNORE THE ENEMY AND HEAD STRAIGHT TO THE SOUTH.
JUST A MOMENT, MAJOR GOLLOB!
THE REST WILL JOIN ME TO INTER-CEPT.

!IN OUR CURRENT STATE, WE WILL JUST TIRE OUR-SELVES OUT!
WE WILL SUFFER GREAT HARM IF WE CON-TINUE LIKE THIS!
OR ARE YOU ASKING THEM TO OIE IN VAIN?!
MISS CANTA-CUZINO!
OK ...
SO YOU'RE SAYING ...
"LET'S ABANDON OUR ALLIES AND RUN AWAY?"
THAT'S... NOT WHAT I-
EVEN IF WE LET THEM TAKE THE BASE, WE WILL FIGHT THEM EVEN-TUALLY.
EVERY SOLDIER IS A VALUABLE PIECE TO ME. I WILL NOT ABANDON ANY OF THEM.
DO NOT MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF.

FOLLOW MY ORDERS IF YOU WANT TO LIVE TO YOUR GOLDEN YEARS.
BRACE YOUR-SELVES, BECAUSE I'M GOING TO WORK THE TWO OF YOU EXTRA HARD.

IF THE NUMBERS INCREASE WE WILL NOT SURVIVE!
HOW'S THE EVAC-UATION PRO-GRESS?
ズン…
WE'RE SITTING DUCKS HERE!
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JUST HOW LONG CAN WE ENDURE …?
FORTY PERCENT! WE NEED MORE TIME!

ARE WE REALLY THIS HELPLESS AGAINST THEM?!
DAMN!
!!

WITCHES! AN UNKNOWN AFFILIATION OF WITCHES!
ARE THOSE...
WE WILL HANDLE IT FROM HERE.
YOU NEED TO WITHDRAW AT ONCE.
LET'S FIGHT BACK!
THIS IS OUR SHOT!
!?
IT'S USELESS.

LET'S FOCUS ON TURNING THIS SIT-UATION AROUND!
STOP THE ATTACK IN FRONT AND PROVIDE A ROUTE FOR ESCAPE!
GROUP THEM TOGETHER FOR A BARRAGE AND WATCH YOUR SIDES!
DIRECTION 0-8-5! DISTANCE 105 METERS! PIN THEM DOWN!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? USING THAT POWER MUST BE TIRING ...
I'M FINE.
ハー...
ズクーン...
MAJOR GOLLOB'S PARTICULAR MAGIC IS CALLED ...
"SPACIAL GRASP"
IT ALLOWS HER TO READ THE TOPOGRAPHY OF HER ENVIRONMENT.
KNOWLEDGE IS POWER... AND THIS POWER HAS CHANGED THE TIDES OF WAR MANY TIMES.
SADLY, THIS ABILITY PLACES A HEAVY BURDEN ON THE MAJOR.
CANTACUZINO. INUFUSA. I BEG OF YOU...

YOU TWO HEAD TO THE DESIGNATED SPOT.
YOU CAN COUNT ON US, MAJOR!
DON'T JUST TALK A BIG GAME. SHOW ME SOME RESULTS!
YE-YES MA'AM!!!
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING, MISS?
HAVE YOU NOT FELT ANYTHING IN THESE PAST FEW WEEKS?
THE MEMBERS OF THE UNIT ARE NOT TRUSTING HER.
THE MAJOR LOOKS AT HER SUBORDINATES AS IF THEY ARE JUST CHESS PIECES.
AND HER STRATEGY IS SO RECKLESS GIVEN OUR CURRENT SHAPE.

THE MAJOR IS CERTAINLY A SCARY PERSON... BUT I DON'T THINK SHE IS A BAD PERSON.
HMM... I FEEL A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE.
I'VE BEEN IN MANY TYPES OF UNITS BEFORE AND NONE OF THEM HAVE EVER FAILED.
IF YOU SAY SO... I WON'T WORRY.
ANYWAY, LET'S CLEAR THIS MESS IN FRONT OF US!
ROGER THAT!

ARE THESE... ABANDONED MINES...?
YES. THERE ARE COUNTLESS LEFT BEHIND SINCE THE INVASION.
THEY BUILT A BASE HERE FOR MINERAL RESOURCES.
BUT WILL IT REALLY BE EASY TO FIND?
HEH...
JUST PRAY THAT MUTT CAN DO HER JOB.

IT'S THIS WAY!
SNIFF
SNIFF
HMM...
I CAN SMELL GUN-POWDER.
FOR SURE!
AHA! FOUND IT!

MY UNIT IS DAMAGED!
WE'RE OUT OF LUCK!
EVEN THIS MANY WITCHES IS NOT ENOUGH HELP!
.....

I FOUND IT! I FOUND IT, MAJOR!!!
DON'T BARK! YOU'LL RUIN MY EARS!
UH... SORRY.
ARE YOU DONE?
YEP! ALL SET UP!
CANTACUZINO HERE. I'VE ALSO FINISHED PREPARATIONS.
ALL RIGHT...
COMMENCE OPERATION CANARY!
DRAW THE ENEMY TOWARD US SO THE ARMY CAN RUN!
DON'T GET CAUGHT!!!
YES MA'AM!

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4...
3...
2...
1...
ZERO!

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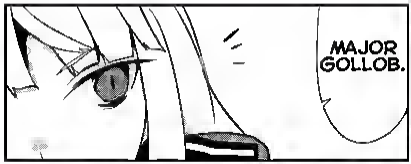
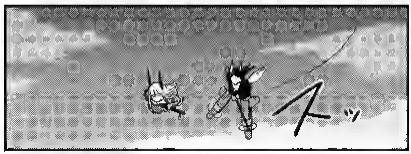
TOO EASY ...
I KNOW WE'RE FAR MORE CAPABLE THAN NORMAL SOLDIERS ...
...BUT THE ENEMY IS A BUNCH OF DUMB ANIMALS!
WITH THIS, WE'VE EARNED ENOUGH SPARE TIME.
THE VICTORY IS OURS!

I HAD TO MANIPULATE BULLETS WITH MY MAGIC TO CREATE A WEAK POINT.
WARRANT OFFICER INUFUSA HAD TO CREATE A BLAST TO TRIGGER A LANDSLIDE ABOVE THE ENEMY.
EASY?!
IT WASN'T THAT EASY...
WE PUT SO MUCH EFFORT INTO THIS TO DEFEAT THE NEUROI.
SHE GRASPED THE SITUATION AND USED ALL OF OUR SKILLS TO THE LIMIT.
IF ONE ELEMENT OF THIS OPERATION WENT WRONG, THE WHOLE MISSION WOULD'VE SURELY FAILED!

YOU CAN'T REACH THIS LEVEL ON MERITS ALONE.
I GUESS I SHOULD SAY I HAVE A LOT TO LEARN...
IT'S A MIRACLE WE ONLY SUFFERED MINOR DAMAGE!
WE CAN'T RELAX JUST YET, BUT AT LEAST WE CAN SEE THE LIGHT!
WE'RE SAVED!

BUT WHERE ON EARTH DID THOSE WITCHES COME FROM?
THERE WASN'T EVEN A UNIT AROUND HERE ...
THEY JUST APPEARED FROM NOWHERE LIKE...
MIRAGE WITCHES!


MAJOR GOLLOB.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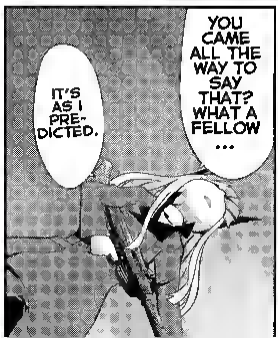
I KNOW I SAID SOME HARSH THINGS IN THE PAST...
YOUR CONFIDENCE IN BATTLE AND YOUR FAITH IN YOUR TROOPS IS UNMATCHED.


IT'S AS I PREDICTED.
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY TO SAY THAT? WHAT A FELLOW...

I WAS NARROW-MINDED.

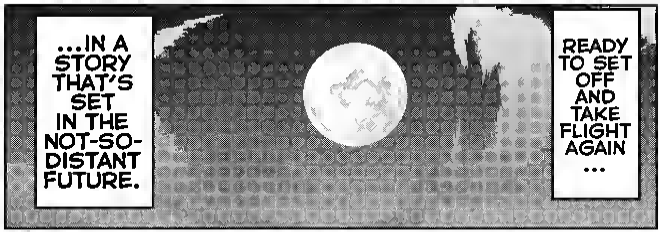
DON'T MIND HER ...
SHE WOULD HAVE NEVER ADDED YOU TO THE TEAM IF SHE DIDN'T TRUST YOU.
EMMA, YOU TALK TOO MUCH!
HAVING A HARD TIME WITH HER, AREN'T YOU?
WELL... I'M USED TO IT BY NOW...
BESIDES, THE MAJOR ALWAYS KEEPS HER PROMISES.
PROMISES?
EMMA!
WHAT? THE MAJOR CALLS YOU BY YOUR FIRST NAME?
REALLY... YOU ALL NEED TO CUT THE CHATTER!

I NEVER INTEND TO THROW AWAY A PIECE FROM MY HAND.
YOU REALLY SHOULD PRAISE US MORE, MAJOR!
LIKE "YOU DID IT!" AND "IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU!"
SO CRUEL...
LOOKS LIKE THIS PUPPY FAILED HER TRAINING!
NO FOOD FOR YOU TONIGHT!
WHAAAAAA?!

AFTER THIS BRAVE FIGHT, THEY FORGED ON FOR TWO MORE YEARS, ACTING AS SHIELDS FOR THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE LEFT BEHIND.

THE TALE OF THE MYSTERIOUS UNKNOWN TROOP SOON BECAME WELL-KNOWN AROUND EASTERN EUROPE.

THESE LEGENDARY "MIRAGE WITCHES" BECAME THE SAVIOR FOR MANY WHO HAVE SUFFERED.



Episode 07

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